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AM-COVERT 5-22

WASHINGTON (UPI) - COVERT ACTION INFORMATION BUREAU, A PERIODICAL WHICH STATES ITS OBJECT AS DESTRUCTION OF AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES, TODAY PUBLISHED THE NAMES AND SOME BIOGRAPHICAL AND OTHER DETAILS ON 40 ALLEGED CIA OFFICERS AND AGENTS SAID TO BE OPERATING IN 31 COUNTRIES.

THE LIST INCLUDED 13 ALLEGED CHIEFS OF STATION, 8 DEPUTY CHIEFS, AND 19 SENIOR "CASE OFFICERS" - OFFICERS WHO SUPERVISE LOCAL AGENTS. ONE OF THE DEPUTY CHIEFS ABROAD WAS IDENTIFIED AS A WOMAN.

NOTING THAT LEGISLATION WAS PENDING IN CONGRESS TO MAKE A CRIMINAL OFFENSE THE UNAUTHORIZED IDENTIFICATION OF INTELLIGENCE PERSONNEL, COVERT ACTION SAID IT WOULD CONTINUE TO NAME NAMES.

"WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT IT CAN BE CONSTITUTIONALLY SUPPRESSED BY THE GOVERNMENT," THE PERIODICAL SAID. "IF ANY OF THE PROPOSED LAWS DESIGNED TO CENSOR THIS COLUMN OUT OF EXISTENCE ARE PASSED WE CAN ASSURE OUR READERS THAT WE WILL FIGHT THEM IN THE COURTS."

A CIA SPOKESMAN SAID, "WE THINK THAT THE REVEALING OF NAMES BY COVERT ACTION IS NOT HELPFUL TO OUR LEGITIMATE RESPONSIBILITIES. WE SUPPORT EFFORTS IN CONGRESS TO DEVISE SOME LEGISLATION WHICH WILL HELP CURTAIL SUCH EFFORTS BY INDIVIDUALS, SUCH AS THOSE WHO WORK FOR COVERT ACTION."

AMONG ALLEGED CIA PERSONNEL IDENTIFIED, WERE THOSE SAID TO BE WORKING IN SUCH SENSITIVE AND POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS POSTS AS ALGERIA, GUATEMALA, JERUSALEM, LIBYA AND ZAIRE.

IN IDENTIFYING THE ALLEGED CHIEF OF STATION IN ALGIERS, COVERT ACTION NOTED THE SAME MAN HAD BEEN EXPOSED BEFORE BY RENEGADE CIA AGENT PHILIP AGEE AS HAVING BEEN AN AGENT IN JAMAICA.

AGEE, WHO FLED THE UNITED STATES 11 YEARS AGO TO AVOID CIA REVIEW OF A BOOK HE WAS WRITING ABOUT THE AGENCY, IS LISTED AS A MEMBER OF COVERT ACTION'S BOARD OF ADVISORS.

PRESENTLY LIVING IN HAMBURG, WEST GERMANY, AGEE RECENTLY CAME WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE U.S. COURT SYSTEM WHEN THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT FILED SUIT AGAINST HIM FOR THE PROFITS FROM HIS BOOKS, DIRTY WORK: THE CIA IN WESTERN EUROPE, AND DIRTY WORK II, THE CIA IN AFRICA. BOTH WERE WRITTEN ABROAD.

THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT MOVED AFTER THE CIA SUCCESSFULLY RECOVERED THE PROFITS OF ANOTHER UNAUTHORIZED BOOK WRITTEN ABOUT AGENCY

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ACTIVITIES BY FORMER CIA AGENT FRANK SNEPP. THE SNEPP ACTION WAS UPHOLD BY THE U.S. SUPREME COURT. ON ENTERING AND LEAVING THE CIA, EMPLOYEES SWEAR TO AN OATH THEY WILL NOT REVEAL ANY OF THE AGENCY'S ACTIVITIES WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL.

IN ADDITION TO THE ALLEGED CIA CHIEF OF STATION IN ALGERIA, COVERT ACTION NAMED AN ALLEGED CASE OFFICER THERE AND ALLEGED CHIEFS OR DEPUTY CHIEFS OF STATION AND CASE OFFICERS IN ARGENTINA, AUSTRIA, BOLIVIA, BURUNDI, CANADA, ECUADOR, FINLAND, FRANCE, GUATEMALA, GUYANA, HAITI, INDIA, JAPAN, JERUSALEM, LIBYA (FROM WHERE ALL U.S. DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL WERE WITHDRAWN RECENTLY AND WHERE 2 U.S. OIL COMPANY EMPLOYEES ARE BEING HELD BY LIBYAN AUTHORITIES AS "SPIES"), MALI, NEPAL, NIGERIA, NORWAY, PAKISTAN, SRI LANKA, SUDAN, SWAZILAND, TUNISIA, UNITED KINGDOM, ZAIRE AND ZAMBIA.

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